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	JUSE-00	L-01	ADS-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01
	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	SB-00	SNP-00	SP-00
	SR-00	SSO-00	STR-01	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	SNIS-00
	NISC-02	PMB-00	PRME-01	DRL-09	G-00	/042R	

DRAFTED BY: AF/C: KCAISTON
 APPROVED BY: AF/C: RJFENDRICK
 AF/C: KCAISTON
 AF/C: DRAWSON (DRAFTER)
 EUR/WE: CKELLY (INFO)

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 TO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA IMMEDIATE
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 AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
 AMEMBASSY BANGUI
 AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
 TAGS: PREL MOPS PHUM RW FR
 SUBJECT: DEPT URGES RPF TO STOP FIGHTING; RPF REP COMPLAINS ABOUT
 FRENCH

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
 CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)
 DECLASSIFY AFTER: 22 JUL 2015
 DATE/CASE ID: 04 NOV 2011 201005065

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1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY. DEPARTMENT SENT AN URGENT MESSAGE TO RWANDAN PATRIOTIC FRONT (RPF) LEADERS THANKING THEM FOR CHANGING RPF'S POSITION ON THE FRENCH-LED HUMANITARIAN OPERATION, NOTING THE DANGERS OF PURSUING AN OFFENSIVE IN THE SOUTH AND ARGUING THAT A CEASE FIRE WAS IMMEDIATELY REQUIRED FOR THE GOOD OF ALL, INCLUDING THE RPF. RPF'S MURIGANDE TOOK THE MESSAGE;

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AMBASSADOR RAWSON REVIEWED RESULTS OF THIS MEETING WITH FRENCH EMBASSY OFFICIAL LATE JULY 1. END SUMMARY.

3. FAILING EFFORTS TO LINK UP A/S MOOSE WITH GENERAL KAGAME BY PHONE, DEPARTMENT CONVOKED RWANDAN PATRIOTIC FRONT REP CHARLES MURIGANDE AFTERNOON JULY 1 AND ASKED HIM TO CONVEY AN URGENT MESSAGE TO HIS LEADERSHIP. AF/C ACTING DIRECTOR FENDRICK AND AMBASSADOR RAWSON RECEIVED DR. MURIGANDE AND TOLD HIM THAT:

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-- WE DEEPLY APPRECIATED GENERAL KAGAME'S DECISION NOT TO CONTEST THE FRENCH HUMANITARIAN OPERATION AND HIS WILLINGNESS TO MAKE HIS POSITION PUBLIC. SUCH ABILITY TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT AN ISSUE WAS A MARK OF STATESMANSHIP.

-- WE WERE VERY CONCERNED THAT THE CONTINUED RPF OFFENSIVE WOULD RIP APART THE SOCIAL FABRIC OF SOUTHWEST RWANDA, ENDANGERING THOUSANDS OF DISPLACED PERSONS. THE RPF ADVANCE ALSO RISKED CONFRONTATION WITH THE FRENCH, IMPEDING THEIR EFFORT TO BRING SAFETY AND HUMANITARIAN AID TO THREATENED POPULATIONS.

-- WE BELIEVED THE TIME WAS LONG PAST FOR BELLIGERENTS TO CEASE HOSTILITIES. PROLONGATION OF THE WAR MAY HAVE DIRE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE VERY FUTURE OF RWANDA AND FOR THE CHANCE OF PEACE IN THE REGION. RPF'S OBJECTIVES OF SECURITY, PEACE WITH NEIGHBORS AND A DEVELOPMENT-ORIENTED BROAD-BASED GOVERNMENT WERE BEING JEOPARDIZED BY ITS SINGLE-MINDED DETERMINATION TO WIN THE WAR.

4. MURIGANDE AGREED TO TRANSMIT THIS MESSAGE TO RPF LEADERS IN RWANDA THAT EVENING. HE PROTESTED THAT THE

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RPF HAD NEVER SOUGHT A MILITARY VICTORY OVER RWANDAN TERRITORY BUT RATHER ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE MASSACRES. THE RPF DID NOT BELIEVE THE FRENCH, UNAMIR, OR ANY OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODY WOULD TAKE INTO CUSTODY THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR MASSACRES, SO THE RPF PURSUED THE WAR SO AS TO OVERCOME THAT EVIL ELEMENT IN RWANDA SOCIETY. WHILE THE RPF WANTED A BROAD-BASED GOVERNMENT IN WHICH

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ALL RWANDANS WERE REPRESENTED, THEY COULD NOT BE ASKED TO SIT DOWN AT A TABLE AND ARRANGE POWER-SHARING WITH THOSE WHO HAD SLAUGHTERED HUTU MODERATES AND TUTSI. THAT WOULD MERELY EMPOWER THE MURDERERS SO THAT, IN A FEW YEARS, THEY COULD TRY AGAIN TO KILL OFF ALL THEIR ENEMIES.

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CITING A NY TIMES ARTICLE OF THAT MORNING, MURIGANDE PROTESTED REPORTED FRENCH UNWILLINGNESS TO PROTECT THREATENED TUTSI AT GISHITA. MURIGANDE ALSO QUERIED WHY THE FRENCH DID NOT TELL THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT TO STOP HATE-MONGERING RADIO BROADCASTS; HE BELIEVED THAT GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WOULD DO WHATEVER THE FRENCH REQUESTED.

6. RAWSON AND FENDRICK NOTED THAT THE UN SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR HAD JUST ISSUED A REPORT CALLING FOR AN INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL AND THE US GOVERNMENT HAD ENDORSED THAT IDEA. THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WAS THUS UNDERTAKING ITS RESPONSIBILITIES TO INVESTIGATE MASS MURDERS AND BRING THE PERPETRATORS TO JUSTICE. THERE WOULD BE AN ACCOUNTING FOR GENOCIDE AND NOW THE FRENCH WERE PROTECTING ENDANGERED POPULATIONS IN THE SOUTHWEST TO MAKE SURE THE KILLING OF INNOCENTS STOPPED; THERE WAS,

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CONSEQUENTLY, NO FURTHER REASON FOR THE UNCLASSIFIED
WAR. RAWSON AGREED TO RAISE WITH FRENCH THAT AFTERNOON
MURIGANDE'S CONCERNS

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HE INFORMED

MURIGANDE THAT WE HAD RECEIVED ASSURANCES FROM ALL LEVELS
OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT THAT THEY WANTED TO KEEP TO
THEIR HUMANITARIAN MANDATE AND TO AVOID CONFRONTATION
WITH THE RPF. RAWSON AND FENDRICK RECOMMENDED THAT THE
RPF MEET REGULARLY WITH THE FRENCH TO WORK OUT POSSIBLE
MISUNDERSTANDINGS. MURIGANDE SAID THE RPF WERE WILLING
TO MEET WITH THE FRENCH IF THERE WERE ANYTHING TO BE
GAINED FROM SUCH MEETINGS.

7. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATIONS WITH FRENCH EMBASSY
OFFICIAL HOLLEVILLE, AMBASSADOR RAWSON REVIEWED THE
SUBSTANCE OF OUR DEMARCHE AND RELAYED MURIGANDE'S
CONCERNS REGARDING FRENCH ACTIVITIES. HE URGED THAT THE
FRENCH TRY ONCE AGAIN TO MEET WITH THE RPF AND CLEAR THE
AIR ON MISPERCEIVED INTENTIONS AND ACTIONS. RAWSON ALSO
TRANSMITTED TO MURIGANDE FAVORABLE WASHINGTON POST
COVERAGE ON THE FRENCH OPERATION AND AN AFP ITEM CITING
FRENCH UN REP'S PROMISE TO TRY TO GET RADIO MILLES
COLLINES OFF THE AIR.

8. BUJUMBURA - MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.
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